Hello, my name is Adrienne and I am a Trans racial adoptee who grew up in South Texas during the 80's.

Advocates have been working on equal rights legislation in Texas and across the country for more than 50 years, going back at least to Jean Paton and Florence Fisher, considered two of the founders of the adoptee rights movement in the early 1970s. Like other states, Texas sealed and made adoptees' original birth certificates unavailable in the 1950s as a way to protect the adoptee and the adoptive family from outside interference.

Despite recent efforts in the Texas legislature to restore a right that had existed since statehood—including <u>nearly unanimous support for a measure four years ago</u>—Texas failed again to advance a bill to the governor this past session.

I ask that Connecticut does better for Connecticut adoptees than Texas has for Texas adoptees. Please do not make the same mistake Texas did last session. Adoptees have rights to their identity, please do not block that right from adoptees any further.